

You may send comments on the information collection requirements to the Service's Information Collection Clearance Officer at the address provided at 50 CFR 2.1(b).

[75 FR 75156, Dec. 2, 2010, as amended at 79 FR 43966, July 29, 2014]

§ 21.44 Depredation order for horned larks, house finches, and white-crowned sparrows in California.

Horned larks (*Eremophila alpestris*), house finches (*Carpodacus mexicanus*), and white-crowned sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) may be taken in Fresno, Merced, Napa, and Sonoma Counties in California if they are depredating on agricultural or horticultural crops. Take of birds under this order must be done under the supervision of the county agriculture commissioner. You do not need a Federal permit for this depredation control as long as you meet the conditions below, but a depredation permit (see § 21.41 in this subpart) is required for take of other migratory bird species, or for take of horned larks or white-crowned sparrows from May 1 through October 31.

(a) *When is take allowed under this depredation order?*

(1) Horned larks and white-crowned sparrows may be controlled from November 1 through April 30.

(2) House finches may be controlled at any time.

(b) *Use of nonlethal control.* Each season, before lethal control may be undertaken, the landowner must attempt to use nonlethal control of migratory bird depredation as recommended by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services. The county agriculture commissioner must confirm that nonlethal measures have been undertaken to control or eliminate the problem prior to the landowner using lethal control.

(c) *Ammunition.* Except when using an air rifle or an air pistol, if firearms are used to kill migratory birds under the provisions of this regulation, the shooter must use nontoxic shot or nontoxic bullets to do so. See § 20.21(j) of this chapter for a listing of approved nontoxic shot types.

(d) *Disposition of carcasses.* Specimens useful for scientific purposes may be transferred to any entity authorized to possess them. If not transferred, all carcasses of birds killed under this order must be buried or otherwise destroyed. None of the above migratory birds killed, or the parts thereof, or the plumage of such birds, may be sold or removed from the area where killed.

(e) *Annual report.* Any county official acting under this depredation order must provide an annual report to the Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office using FWS Form 3-202-20-2144. The address for the Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office is in § 2.2 of subchapter A of this chapter, and is on the form. The report is due by January 31st of the year after control activities are undertaken.

[78 FR 65581, Nov. 1, 2013]

§ 21.45 Depredation order for depredating purple gallinules in Louisiana.

Landowners, sharecroppers, tenants, or their employees or agents, actually engaged in the production of rice in Louisiana, may, without a permit, shoot purple gallinules (*Ionornis martinica*) when found committing or about to commit serious depredations to growing rice crops on the premises owned or occupied by such persons: *Provided:*

(a) That purple gallinules may only be killed pursuant to this section between May 1 and August 15 in any year.

(b) That purple gallinules killed pursuant to this section shall not be transported or sold or offered for sale except that, such transportation within the area, as may be necessary to bury or otherwise destroy the carcasses of such birds is permitted: *Provided,* That the Director or the State agricultural department, college, or other public institution may requisition such purple gallinules killed as may be needed for scientific investigations: *Provided further,* That any purple gallinules killed under authority of this section may also be donated to charitable institutions for food purposes.

(c) That any person exercising any of the privileges granted by this section shall permit at all reasonable times, including during actual operations, any